

Due to an undecipherable tape recording and staff's absence from the 12/6/2004 meeting, the minutes were compiled from the Secretary's meeting notes.

MAINE FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES December 6, 2004

Chair Darrel Fournier called the Maine Fire Protection Services Commission to order at 1:05 p.m. at the DPS Fallen Heroes Conference Room, Central Maine Commerce Center, 45 Commerce Drive, Augusta. Members present were Jack Berry, Jay Bradshaw, John Dean, Chief Darrel Fournier, Edward Johnston, Geoffrey Maker, Senator Richard Nass, Harty Norris, Chief Jethro Pease, Charles Soltan, and Steve Willis. Members absent were Michael Albert, Representative Patricia Blanchette, Senator Bruce Bryant, Representative Robert Duplessie, David Wacker and Bill Williams. Chief Jeffrey Cammack was excused from the meeting. Alex McPhedran from the Maine State Federation of Fire Fighters was a guest of the Fire Commission.

Reports of Committees

Fire Commission members reviewed the plans for the Blaine House Conference on Emergency Response. The conference is scheduled for the Augusta Civic Center on Friday, March 11th. Members agreed to retain the 2004 conference fees. Maine Municipal Association (MMA) is handling all registration arrangements and will be asked whether electronic registration is possible. A draft of the conference brochure will be available at the January meeting.

The Best Practices committee continues to review potential candidates and hopes to submit names to the Fire Commission soon.

Fire Commission members were reminded that the Fire Service/EMS Day at the State House is scheduled for Wednesday, January 19th from 8:00am to 2:00pm in the Hall of Flags. Arrangements will be finalized at the January meeting.

Old Business

Fire Commission members discussed warning signs on structures using truss construction.

A motion by Ted Johnston, seconded by Charlie Soltan, to proceed with the rulemaking option through the Fire Marshal's Office to adopt rules to mark structures using truss construction with warning signs similar to Bangor's ordinance. The motion passed unanimously.

Members requested that Senator Nass submit legislation in 2005 for funding of the health care study.

Fire Commission members agreed to form a committee to study the issue of emergency personnel directing traffic during emergencies. The Traffic Direction committee members will be Jack Berry (Chair), Dave Wacker and Senator Nass representing the Fire Commission, Andy Levesque from Auburn Police Department, Lt. Anne Shad from the Maine State Police, Chief Bob Lefevbre of the Gorham Fire Department, Chief Larry Willis of the Hermon Fire Department, Sheriff Glen Holt from Androscoggin County and representatives from Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and Maine Safety Council to be named later. The Traffic Direction committee will meet to discuss the need to submit legislation and report back to the Fire Commission.

New Business

Fire Commission members discussed forming a fire caucus for the 122nd Legislature. Members agreed to include a promotional announcement at the Fire Service/ EMS Day at the State House on January 19th. A draft of the letter will be emailed to members prior to the January Fire Commission meeting.

Members agreed to host a Legislative Night at the Ground Round Restaurant in Augusta on March 10th, the night before the Spring Conference.

With no further business to come before the Maine Fire Protection Services Commission, Chair Fournier adjourned the meeting at 2:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Pinette
Staff

Please mark your calendars:

Monday, January 3 rd	Regular Meeting	CMCC	1:00pm
Wednesday, January 19 th	Fire/EMS Day	Hall of Flags	8am-2:00pm
Monday, February 7 th	Regular Meeting	State House	1:00pm
Monday, March 7 th	Regular Meeting	State House	1:00pm
Thursday, March 10 th	Legislative Night	Ground Round	4pm-7:00pm
Friday, March 11 th	Spring Conference	ACC	8am-3:00pm